

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11
OIC-02 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02
CEQ-01 PM-05 /145 W
-----041432 131704Z /46

P 131511Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6777
INFO USDOEHQ WASHDC PRIORITY
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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DEPT PASS IO/SCT
DOE FOR AMMONS, IA
CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, IAEA, SF
SUBJECT: JUNE MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS:
DESIGNATION ISSUE

REFS: (A) VIENNA 5278, (B) VIENNA 5088, (C) STATE 140152

SUMMARY: AS REPORTED REF A, AS RESULT OF ROLL-CALL VOTE
CALLED BY US REP, IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS DESIGNATED
EGYPT TO 1978-79 BOARD AS "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER FOR
AFRICA BY VOTE OF 20 TO 9 (US) WITH THREE ABSTENTIONS
AND TWO ABSENTEES. DISCUSSION WAS RESTRAINED, THOUGH
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BROADLY PARTICIPATED IN BY BOARD MEMBERS. END SUMMARY.

1. DISCUSSION OF THIS AGENDA ITEM FOLLOWED CLEAN-CUT
SCENARIO. CHAIRMAN, AS PREDICTED, READ OFF NAMES OF
TWELVE STATES, INCLUDING EGYPT (NIGER WAS APPARENTLY
PERSUADED NOT TO ROCK THE BOAT) WHICH HE GATHERED
BOARD MEMBERS "WITH CERTAIN RESERVATIONS" WISHED TO

DESIGNATE TO 1978-79 BOARD. I INTERVENED WITH STATEMENT TRANSMITTED REF C, ADDING THAT OUR POSITION REFLECTED NO LACK OF RESPECT FOR EGYPT, WITH WHICH US ENJOYED MOST CORDIAL RELATIONS. BRIEF SUPPORTING STATEMENTS WERE DELIVERED BY REPS OF CANADA, PORTUGAL AND FRG (SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF EC BOARD MEMBERS).

2. SUPPORT FOR EGYPT WAS VOICED BY REPS OF TWENTY MEMBERS, INCLUDING ALL FROM AF, EE AND LA AREAS, WITH SAME ARGUMENTS EMPLOYED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA LAST YEAR. IN ADDITION, EGYPTIAN REP OBSERVED THAT BOARD HAD THUS FAR SHOWN "GREAT RESTRAIN" IN NOT TAKING ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA UNDER ARTICLE XIX OF STATUTE RECOMMENDING SUSPENSION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S PRIVILEGES AND RIGHTS AS AGENCY MEMBER.

3. AT CLOSE OF DISCUSSION, I CALLED FOR ROLL-CALL VOTE ON AN AMENDMENT TO CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD SUBSTITUTE SOUTH AFRICA AS "MOST ADVANCED" MEMBER FROM AFRICA, NOTING OUR CONCURRENCE WITH OTHER DESIGNATIONS PROPOSED BY CHAIRMAN. BEFORE ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, NUMBER OF REPS, MOSTLY AFRICAN, EXPRESSED REGRET AT CALL FOR VOTE ON ISSUE WHICH, THEY SAID, HAD BEEN "SETTLED" LAST YEAR. (OTHER REPS, INCLUDING THOSE WHO VOTED WITH US ALSO PRIVATELY EXPRESSED THEIR REGRET THAT US HAD DECIDED TO CALL FOR VOTE). EGYPTIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REP NOTED THAT VOTE WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS VOTE FOR OR AGAINST EGYPT AS ONLY STATE ACCEPTABLE TO REST OF AFRICAN STATES AS DESIGNEE. SENEGALESE REP, WITH BRIEF OUTBURST, LENT ONLY EMOTIONAL NOTE TO DISCUSSION.

4. OUTCOME OF VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS: IN FAVOR OF US AMENDMENT - 9 (US, UK, FRG, FRANCE, ITALY, PORTUGAL, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, BELGIUM); OPPOSED - 20 (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ECUADOR, EGYPT, GHANA, INDIA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NIGER, NIGERIA, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PERU, ROMANIA, SENEGAL, TUNISIA, USSR); ABSTENTIONS - 3 (AUSTRIA, JAPAN, ROK); ABSENT - 2 (IRAN, KUWAIT). DISCUSSION ENDED FOLLOWING CHAIR'S FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOTE OUTCOME AND DEFEAT OF US AMENDMENT.

5. COMMENT: MISSION WOULD BE INTERESTED TO LEARN OF ANY REACTION BY SAG TO THESE PROCEEDINGS. KIRK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978VIENNA05381
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780246-1242
Format: TEL
From: VIENNA USIAEA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780663/aaaaccif.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4bb2bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 VIENNA 5278, 78 VIENNA 5088, 78 STATE 140152
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2366077
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUNE MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS: DESIGNATION ISSUE
TAGS: AORG, OCON, SF, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4bb2bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014